

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning line 23 on page 4, bridging page 5, with the following amended paragraph:

--The compression strut is articulated by its fastening element [[19]] 20 to an articulation point 26 on the body 21 in the vicinity of the trunk 23, and by its fastening element [[20]] 19 to an articulation point 27 on the lid 24.

The connection is such that the compression strut is being elongated upon closing of the trunk i.e., the extension spring 1 continues to be pre-loaded, whereas opening the lid 24 will lead to linear contraction i.e., release of the extension spring 1, with the compression strut shortening. The distance of the point 27 where the compression strut is articulated to the lid 24, from the point 26 of articulation to the body 21 is reduced upon opening of the lid 24. Lifting the trunk lid 24 is thus supported by the compression strut. As seen from the above description of the compression strut, the actuating tappet 11 will bear against the piston rod 8 of the damper 4 only at the end of the motion of opening the trunk lid 24 so that the motion of opening the lid 24 from the closed position (Fig. 5) is substantially non damped, damping taking place only shortly before the entirely opened position (Fig. 4) is reached.--